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Map Courtesy of
Warren County Chamber of Commerce, Business and Industry

City of Warren Parks: A Walking Tour

Courtesy of...

The Warren County Historical Society

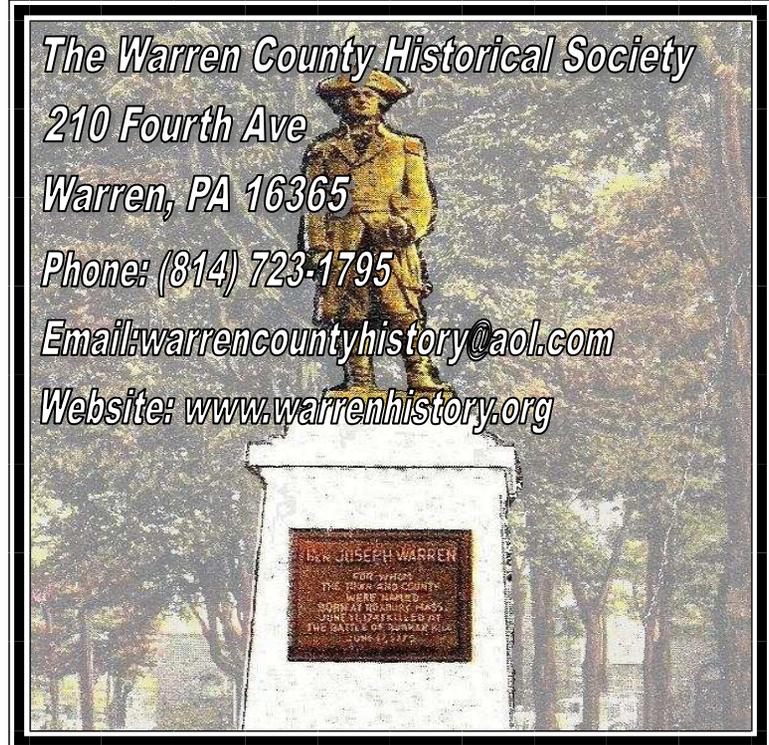
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Beautiful public spaces were integrated into Warren's design when it was first mapped out in 1795. Yet beauty is not the only thing on display in Warren's parks. History is on display as well, and each park has a story to tell that gives meaning to its natural charm. This walking tour will help guide you to the beauty and through the history of some of Warren's parks, including General Joseph Warren Park (above).

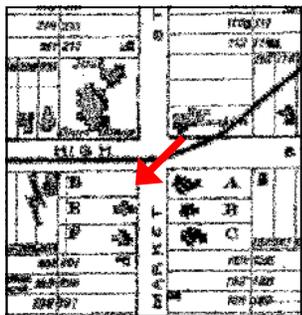
Wetmore Park, Fourth Ave. and Market St.



This charming plot of land was intended for public park use when Andrew Ellicott plotted the town of Warren in 1795. Ideally located on Warren's "Diamond," at the corner of Market St. and Fourth Ave. (formerly High St.) the park was known as Public Square Park before being re-named Wetmore Park, in honor of Edward D. Wetmore, a local



industrialist active in timber and the Struthers Wells Company. Wetmore also served as a trustee of the Warren Library Theater, and was instrumental in the founding of the Warren Public Library. Wetmore's boyhood home at 210 Fourth Ave. now serves as the headquarters of the Warren County Historical Society.



The red arrow shows the location of Wetmore Park on the "Diamond" on High and Market Street, taken from the 1873 Atlas of Warren County. Before the "Raftsmen Guards" departed for duty in the Civil War, they camped at the court house for four weeks and waited to be called to active duty. Surely their encampment spilled over onto Wetmore Park.



George Washington Park

On the bicentennial anniversary of George Washington's birth, a group of prominent Warren citizens (below) granted Warren Borough the land on which Washington Park sits. Consisting of five acres at the top of Beech St., this site features expansive views of the Allegheny River at Warren. Upon its dedication by the Daughters of the American Revolution on August 9, 1932, one thousand Norway Spruce and one thousand White pine trees were planted to form the "bicentennial nucleus" of a new town forest.

Washington Park Donors

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Walter C. Heasley</i> | <i>Abraham Hazeltine</i> |
| <i>Harry A. Logan</i> | <i>William Muir</i> |
| <i>Edward D. Wetmore</i> | <i>Freeman E. Hertzell</i> |
| <i>E.W. Campbell</i> | <i>F.B. Jackson</i> |
| <i>Edward Walker</i> | <i>W.I. Bartholomew</i> |
| <i>Mark W. Jamieson</i> | <i>George L. Craft</i> |
| <i>Charles T. Conarro</i> | |

Morck Park, East St. and 7th St.



Sitting on just over one acre, Morck Park was named in honor of its patron, Anne L.C.. Morck of Oil City who donated the land for a park on January 23, 1928. Mrs. Morck was not only a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and an ardent supporter of educational improvements, she also served as president of the Morck Oil Company of Oil City. When it was dedicated on August 9, 1932 (the same day as George Washington Park) Morck Park included thirteen Washington Elm trees, each named for one of the Thirteen Colonies.



Clemons Park 315 Fourth Ave.

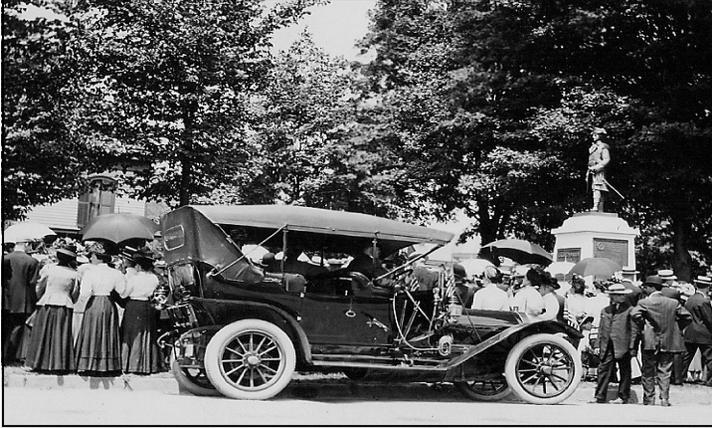
Across the street from the Elks Club of Warren, Clemons Park was gifted to the city in 1966 by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. DeFrees. The park was named after Thomas Clemons, a civic-minded entrepreneur from Warren's early days. Mr. Clemons not only served as town councilman, prothonotary, and county treasure, but also had a hand in numerous publishing ventures, and was a founding officer of the Warren County Bank.

DeFrees Park 310, 312, & 314 Fourth Ave.

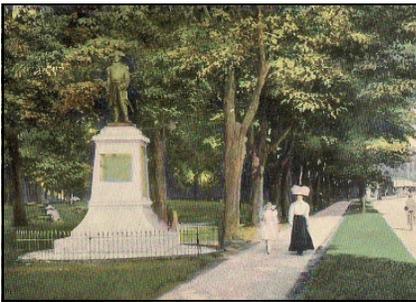
This park was named in honor of local philanthropists Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. DeFrees whose gift of \$21,000 secured this property for Warren in 1966. Mr. DeFrees owned Allegheny Valve Co., and was the former head of the city of Warren Parks and Playground Dept. Three residences once sat on this spot, comprising the addresses of 310, 312, and 314 Fourth Avenue.



General Joseph Warren Park



On July 4th, 1910 (above) Warren residents gathered to dedicate a park in honor of the city's namesake: Revolutionary War General Joseph Warren. Born in Roxbury, MA in 1741 and educated in medicine at Harvard, Joseph Warren served as a president of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and tended the wounded at the Boston Massacre in 1770. In 1775, he volunteered for the Continental Army and refused



money for his commission. He fought at the Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, before being slain during the third and final British charge at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The park's 500-pound statue of General Warren is one of only three in the country (the other two are in Boston). Originally presented by the Tidioute Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in May 2011, the statue of General Warren was rededicated after undergoing repairs.

Celoron Park, Pennsylvania Ave, between Water St. and East St.



Also known as Central Park, Celoron Park takes its name from a bronze plaque mounted on a boulder dedicating the park in honor of French explorer Celoron de Blainville.

Celoron was sent to reestablish France's claim to this region in 1749 by burying a leaden marker plate (*replica above*) at the confluence of the Conewango Creek and Allegheny Rivers. The park, made possible by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of American Colonists, also commemorates the Seneca Indian village, known as Kanoagoa (now rendered as Conewango) that once flourished on the current site of the city of Warren.

Mrs. Cinderella Dalrymple Walker

When Morck Park and Washington Park were dedicated in 1932 the *Warren Mirror* paid tribute to the woman whose untiring efforts had made all of Warren's parks possible. As the first Vice Regent of the Tidioute Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Cinderella Dalrymple Walker, spearheaded the efforts to bring Crescent Park, Soldiers and Sailors Park, General Joseph Warren Park, Morck and Washington Park into being. "long deserved tribute to the lady who has been most active in securing and beautifying, not only these new parks, but all others in Warren"-continuously and earnestly, and sometimes alone, the task of securing official sanction and money for the bridgehead and river-bank and other park improvements.

The Four Flags at Heritage Point

On Memorial Day weekend Warren honors its past by raising the flags of the nations that once claimed this area. The gold Fleur-de-lis on a blue field was the flag of the French monarchy which claimed this land as Louisiana starting in the 1680s. France lost this portion of North America to the United Kingdom of Great Britain



in the 1760s, so the Union Jack, which incorporates the Scottish cross of St. Andrew with the English cross of St. George, next flew over this area, likely at the British trading post at the Buckaloons. This land became property of the United States of America after our country won

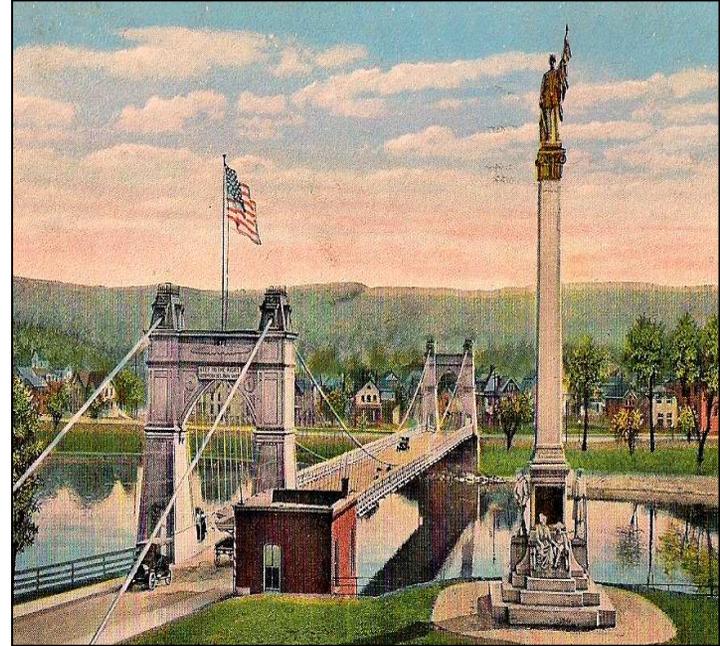
its independence from England, thus the Betsy Ross flag flies here. In the original Flags ceremony in 1968, only three flags were flown, but in 1986, the city of Warren corrected that oversight by hoisting the flag of the Seneca Nation of Indians, whose heritage on this land predates European exploration. The Seneca flag, which features animals representing the various clans of the Seneca tribe, now flies every summer over Warren.

The Bird Stone

The Seneca Nation flag now flies at Four Flags Park, but historically the Seneca did not have flags. In order to pay tribute to this heritage, Seneca artist Carson Waterman created this bird stone monument in 1987. Bird stones were ritual artifacts used by the Seneca and other Eastern Woodland Indians, and have been found in many Seneca sites. This bird stone features Chief Cornplanter, a Seneca woman, and the Three Sisters: corn, beans, and squash.

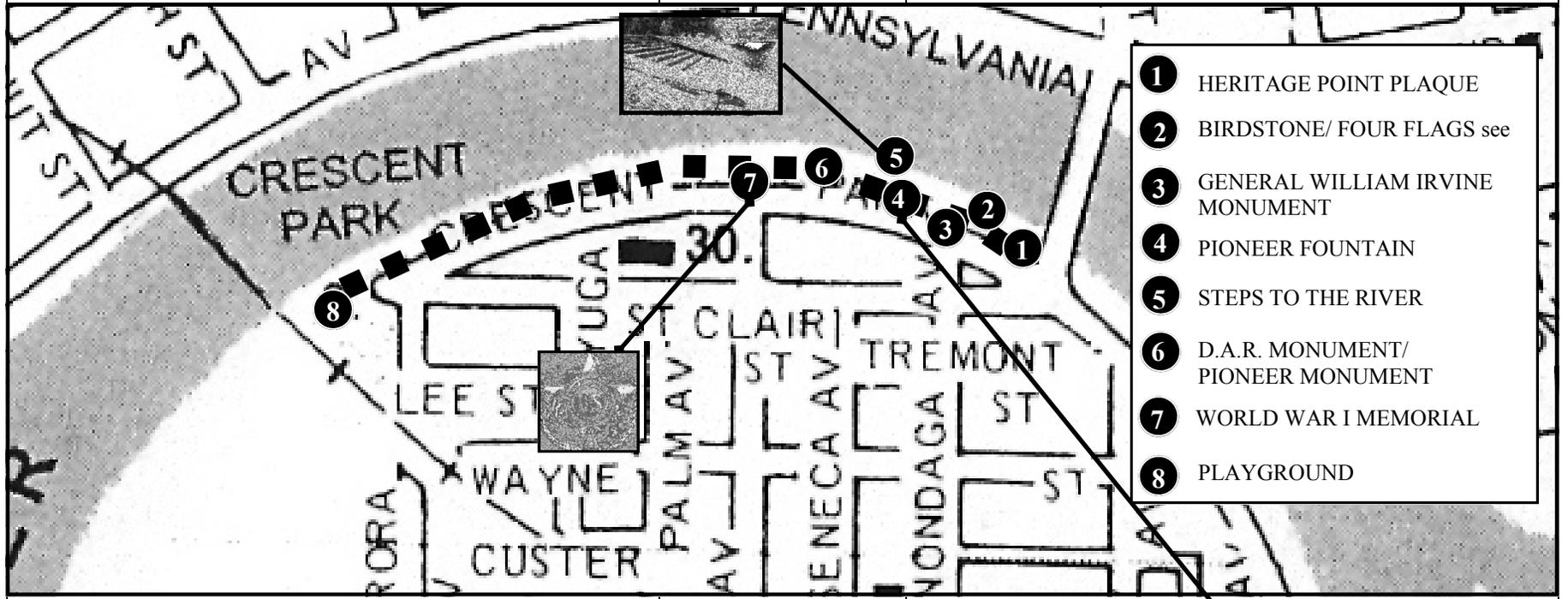


Soldiers and Sailors Park



The Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated Soldiers and Sailors Park on Armistice Day November 11, 1922 to honor freedom's fallen defenders. The newly christened park incorporated the 1909 granite monument (above) that honored the brave fallen of the Civil War. To it, the park added the granite Company I Allied Expeditionary Force Memorial that featured 13 columns inset with the names of the 13 men from Company I who were killed in action in France. Additional plaques were dedicated in honor of the Four Flags that have flown over Warren, and of the founding of the Allegheny National Forest. Additionally, 70 trees were planted to honor servicemen who fell in World War I; their names are on plaques at the base of the trees.

Crescent Park



- 1 HERITAGE POINT PLAQUE
- 2 BIRDSTONE/ FOUR FLAGS see
- 3 GENERAL WILLIAM IRVINE MONUMENT
- 4 PIONEER FOUNTAIN
- 5 STEPS TO THE RIVER
- 6 D.A.R. MONUMENT/ PIONEER MONUMENT
- 7 WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL
- 8 PLAYGROUND

Crescent Park sits across the Allegheny River from downtown Warren on the city's south side. When this land was first surveyed in 1795 it was granted to Revolutionary War General William Irvine. His descendants, Mrs. M.E.I. Biddle and Mrs. S.D.I. Newbold, donated the land to the borough of Warren in 1902. By 1913, the Daughters of the American Revolution had converted the land to an "ideal pleasure place" for the benefit of the people of Warren. The park abounds with sites honoring the county's history including Heritage Point (*see page 8*), Pioneer Fountain (right), and the mysterious steps to the river built by the Elks Club in 1914. Set amidst the forty-one tree species of the Crescent Park Tree Walk, Crescent Park truly is a thing of beauty.

